

**BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 10, 2007 MINUTES**

On Tuesday, April 10, 2007, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 10:00 AM with Commissioners David Schulz, Lewis Stahl and Jim Hart present.

Jim Hart moved to approve the March 20, 2007, minutes as read. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Doris Fischer, Staci Beecher, Louie Loucks, Christopher Leech, Greg Rice, Karen Rice, Jill Steeley, Frank Ford, Roger Staley, Martin Wilde, Rich Hewitt, Shelby Hewitt, Ann Schwend, Laurie Schmidt, and Lane Adamson.

Claims: The Board continued this portion of the meeting to Friday, April 13, 2007.

Airports: Jim Hart moved to proceed with the reimbursement process and to approve submittal of the Application for Federal Assistance, AIP 3-30-0090-009-2007, in the amount of \$116,811, for improvements to the Ennis (Big Sky) Airport, construct snow removal equipment building; and to approve Task Order Number Thirteen, agreement to furnish engineering services to Madison County for improvements to the Ennis (Big Sky) Airport snow removal equipment building construction management services, and Task Order Number Fourteen, agreement to furnish engineering services to Madison County for improvements to the Ennis (Big Sky) Airport snow removal equipment building rebid. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Driveway Variance Request: Louie Loucks, Landowner Representative, Doris Fischer, Planner, and Staci Beecher, Planner 1, met with the Board to discuss a request from YC British Investments, LLC, owners of Yellowstone Club Lot 340, to enable them to utilize an existing driveway that presently serves two neighboring single-family residential lots, rather than building a private driveway that would have to climb steeply, require two switchbacks, and involve extensive tree removal. Jim Hart moved to approve the driveway variance request for Lot 340 of Yellowstone Club Subdivision, Phase 3, based on the Planning Board recommendation with one condition, that a joint address monument be placed at the beginning of the three-way shared driveway, and that each homesite have an additional address monument at its particular turnoff. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Leech West Minor Subdivision Preliminary Plat: Christopher Leech, Landowner, Doris Fischer, Planner, and Staci Beecher, Planner 1, met with the Board to discuss a subdivision proposal approximately 12 miles south of Cameron. The land is identified as Tract 15A of a recorded Certificate of Survey in the Rising Sun River Estates. This subdivision proposes to split the existing 13.67 acre piece into two single family residential lots with Lot 1 being approximately 5.7 acres in size and Lot 2 being 7.8 acres in size. Per recommendation of the Planning Board, Jim Hart moved to approve the preliminary plat of Leech West Minor Subdivision in Section 31, Township 9 South, Range 1 East, with the recommended conditions. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Chris Leech also discussed issues involving the Madison County dumpsite in that area.

Harris Ag Exemption: Doris Fischer, Planner, and Staci Beecher, Planner 1, met with the Board to discuss a request to remove an agricultural exemption on a piece of property, located approximately 1.1 mile east of McAllister and less than one mile off of Ennis Lake Road, allowing the landowners to build a single family residential home on the property. The landowner owns an adjoining piece of property that already contains a homesite and individual well and septic system. The landowner has covenants that would include both properties. As recommended by the Planning Board, Jim Hart move to approve the request to lift the agricultural exemption on the 2.522 acre parcel owned by James III & Mary Pat Harris in Section 34, Township 4 South, Range 1 West, as shown on Certificate of Survey recorded in Book 7, Page 471 of Madison County records, with the recommended conditions. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Silver Star Trails Subdivision Final Plat: Doris Fischer, Planner, and Staci Beecher, Planner 1, presented the Board with the final plat of Silver Star Trails Subdivision. This proposed subdivision, previously called Antelope Trails, is located approximately two miles southwest of Waterloo and would create five single family lots ranging in size from 53.7 acres to 26.9 acres, with a 40 acre irrigated green space or hayfield in the center of the lots. Each lot owner would own a portion of the green space but it would be managed commonly by the Homeowners Association. Staci Beecher stated that the landowner has provided a Subdivision Improvements Agreement Surety Bond for road improvements and a fire protection cistern. Per recommendation of the planning staff, Lewis Stahl moved to approve the final plat of Silver Star Trails Subdivision in Section 3, Township 2 South, Range, 5 West, with the Subdivision Improvements Agreement and Surety Bond. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Norwegian Creek Estates – Request for Release of Letter of Credit: Greg and Karen Rice, landowners, and Doris Fischer, Planner, and Staci Beecher, Planner 1, met with the Board regarding a release of the letter of credit for road improvements and fire protection in Norwegian Creek Estates. Karen Rice stated that all of the road improvements have been completed and the fire protection requirements have been met. There is an archway entering the subdivision that was constructed at twenty-two feet wide instead of the required twenty-four feet. The Rices stated that their intentions are to install a fourteen foot gate on each side of the archway, making the actual width of the road in excess of forty feet. Lewis Stahl moved to allow the Archway to stand at the current width with the requirement that two fourteen foot gates be installed, one on each side of the Archway; and that the Letter of Credit be released pending receipt of actual expenses incurred. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Karen Rice also discussed issues regarding the Rural Improvement District for roads, including Agua Lane and Centennial Drive, that serve Indian Ridge Subdivision. Karen will prepare a letter stating her concerns and present it to the Board.

Employee Wellness Program: Jill Steeley, Public Health Administrator, met with the Board with a proposal for incentives for an employee wellness program. Jill will add funding for this program in her next budget request and contact the MACo Personnel Services Administrator to make sure this proposal is legal and fair.

Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: Frank Ford, Public Safety Communications Coordinator, met with the Board to discuss a Federal grant that helps fund rural fire fighters and emergency services. The grant requires a 5% match. Frank proposed that fire departments conduct fund raisers, with the County loaning the balance of the match needed to the fire departments. Jim Hart moved to authorize loaning up to \$20,000 to the Madison Valley Rural Fire Department for assistance to all County fire departments for the match portion of the Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Maintenance Work Hours: Roger Staley, Maintenance, met with the Board to discuss his request to reduce his work hours during the summer months. Roger stated that he intends to fill in for Colleen during her vacation in July and that he will be available on his days off in case he is needed. Jim Hart moved to adjust Roger's work hours to three ten hour days a week beginning May 1, 2007, to be re-evaluated as needed and unless required sooner, to return full time beginning October 1, 2007. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Maintenance Issues: Roger Staley, Maintenance, met with the Board to discuss bids he has received for painting and electrical work that needs to be done. The Board advised Roger to accept the lower bid for both jobs.

Audit Response: Jim Hart moved to accept the department responses to the Audit Report, Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2006, and to send the response to the auditors. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Board Appointments: The Board received two letters of interest for the vacancy on the Weed Board. Per recommendation of the weed office, Lewis Stahl moved to appoint Charlie Gilman to the Madison County Weed Board representing the Alder/Sheridan area, for a three year term which will expire on December 31, 2009. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Having received one letter of interest for the vacancy on the Nursing Homes Board, Lewis Stahl moved to appoint Mary Ragsdale to the Madison County Nursing Homes Advisory Board representing the Twin Bridges/Silver Star area, for a three year term which will expire on December 31, 2009. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Ordinance 1-2003 Waiver Requests: Martin Wilde, Coyote Energy, met with the Board to request a waiver of the requirements in Ordinance 1-2003. Doris Fischer, Planner, and Staci Beecher, Planner 1, were also present for this portion of the meeting. Martin gave the Board an outline of his experience in the wind energy business and asked for a waiver of the ordinance requirements to construct a temporary weather monitoring tower because of the need to be expedient in the process and because of the fact that the tower would be constructed on private ground. Commissioner Schulz stated that the Board had previously received a similar request that was denied, and that going through the process would allow for public input in the project. Doris Fischer suggested that since there are three companies interested in producing wind energy in the same area, a joint meeting to solicit public comment may be an option that would help expedite the process for all of the entities.

Rich and Shelby Hewitt, representing Paul Kimball of Sagebrush Capital, also met with the Board to request a waiver of the requirements in Ordinance 1-2003. Rich stated that his request was unique because of a pending land acquisition with time restrictions that required the monitoring studies to be completed as quickly as possible. The board offered options to speed up the process but expressed the need to follow the requirements of the ordinance.

Planner Resignation: Doris Fischer, Planner, and Ann Schwend, Laurie Schmidt, and Lane Adamson, Planning Board Members, were present for this portion of the meeting. With regret, Jim Hart moved to accept the resignation of Doris Fisher as Madison County Planner, effective June 30, 2007. David Schulz seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Doris and the Planning Board members offered advice and their services to help the Board draft a job description and job notice for a Planning Director.

Road Crew Resignation: Jim Hart moved to accept the oral resignation of Glen Strauser from the Alder Road Crew, effective April 13, 2007, and to advertise the position. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Fair Manager Resignation: Jim Hart moved to accept the resignation of Jann Potter as the Madison County Fair Manager, effective August 18, 2007, and to advertise for an assistant Fair Manager, with the intention that Jann will help train this person over the summer and that he or she will then be able to take over the Manager position. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Virginia City Dumpster Lease: The Board continued this portion of the meeting to Friday, April 13, 2007.

Resolution of Intent to Pursue CDBG Grant Funding: Jim Hart moved to approve Resolution 8-2007, a resolution giving budgetary authority to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the County's match portion for a Community Development Block Grant Program Technical Assistance Grant for a preliminary architectural report for much needed improvements to the County owned and operated Nursing Homes in Ennis and Sheridan. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Building Project (Law & Justice Center): Jim Hart moved to approve the Independent Services Contract between Madison County and Sheri M. Jarvis to plan and execute a comprehensive information distillation and distribution to educate the residents of Madison County about the proposed Law and Justice Center, with the County Attorney's recommended changes. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

With no further business this portion of the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Friday, April 13, 2007:

Madison Valley Manor Administrator Resignation: With regret, Jim Hart moved to accept the resignation of Jim Clavadetscher as Administrator of the Madison Valley Manor and to advertise the position using the revised job description. Lewis Stahl seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Virginia City Dumpster Lease: Lewis Stahl moved to approve the Lease Agreement between Robert A. Nevin and Madison County for the lease of three acres located along Highway 287 approximately ½ mile west of Virginia City for the purpose of continuing use of said property as a Madison County trash and recycling collection site. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Claims: The Board approved Claims.

David Schulz, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Minutes prepared by:

Laurie Buyan, Administrative Assistant

Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County

Date Approved: April 24, 2007